

## **Testimony in favor of HB 5277**

My name is Maria Pyman, and I live in Farmington. I would like to share three different personal experiences that illustrate the need for HB 5277. First, I have to go to the orthopedist because I have a rebuilt left leg and I was experiencing pain. I needed an x-ray, and the technicians asked if I could stand without a leg brace, but I couldn't because I have no strength in my ankle. The x-ray equipment was not mobile enough to get good shots. The technicians tried putting me on the x-ray table, but it was too high; they had to boost me up, but my position was very precarious sitting half on and half off the table. They tried bringing over a VERY old stepstool, but my position on the table was still very precarious. They got a couple of pictures and the technician manipulated my leg and got x-rays, but the whole process took so long that I was unable to review the results with my doctor on that day. I had to wait three weeks for another appointment. Another experience that I have been through is when I would have to get my weight measured on a scale. I must stand on the same scale that other normal people have to, however, for me, it is too tiny of a platform. Because the process of getting on the scale and getting weight is very difficult and different from what an able-bodied

person's experience would be like, in the majority of the doctor's offices I've been to, the doctor just ends up asking me how much I weigh instead of actually weighing me, which is very concerning as it is not really an accurate reading. Also, when I went to see my cardiologist and my primary care physician a few weeks ago, there were more exam table issues where I had to boost myself or stand on a little shelf to get on. It is very uncomfortable and feels dangerous. Some doctors just do the physical exams in the wheelchair; they ask me to lean forward a little bit to hear my lungs but it is very difficult to lean far forward enough. I hate getting mammograms because you must get your arm in a position that is not possible for me. I have to have a sonogram afterwards because I have dense breasts but because a mammogram shows more, I have to get one of those too , but, I don't get mammograms as often anymore because it's very torturous.